

KS1 Unit 4, Lesson 3: Shabbat

Context: In this lesson pupils will be introduced to the central place of Shabbat in Jewish life and worship. Obedience to the commands of the Torah is lived out in the things that happen over Shabbat.

Overview:

- Look at the ways that Shabbat is celebrated in the Jewish home. Begin to see the importance of the home in the celebration and outworking of the Jewish faith.
- Relate this to obedience to God's laws - Torah.

Essential core:

- Know that the Torah means 'teaching' is the most important part of Jewish scriptures.
- Know that it contains the first 5 books of the Hebrew Bible.
- It teaches Jews what God is like and how they should live their lives.
- One day a week Jews observe the Sabbath: they rest, have a meal on Friday evening with their family. Jews believe that bringing the family together once a week when no one works is important.

Resources: Challah loaves, two candlesticks & candles, matches, persona doll, kippah (cap), tallit (prayer shawl). White tablecloth. <http://reonline.org.uk/specials/jwol> (Shabbat)

Vocabulary: - Challah, kippah, tallit.

INTRODUCTION:

Today David has brought two challah loaves. They do not fit in his bag! It is Friday and his family is about to celebrate Shabbat. Encourage the children to ask him questions (through you). What is Shabbat? Why must he rest? What does that look like in his home? Why does his family enjoy Shabbat - what makes it special? Lay the table for the start of Shabbat and talk about what these things are as you do.

CELEBRATE:

Light the candles and sing "Two Candles Burn" song together. Talk about the meaning of the words. Listen to what the children say about the start of Shabbat (Friday night) on Jewish Way of Life. <http://reonline.org.uk/specials/jwol>

REFLECT:

Eat the Challah bread together. Shabbat is a special day - a time for rest, family and worship. Traditionally Challah is eaten at each of the three meals over Shabbat.

This plaited bread is special - sweet and rich. It reminds people of the miracle of the manna that God provided the people of Israel to eat when they were in the desert. What might these things make Jewish people think about as they eat the Challah loaves today? What do they "say" about what God is like? What is a kippah and tallit? They are worn as a sign of respect for God as Jewish men and boys pray. Let the pupils try them on if they wish. Emphasise these are special things.

PLENARY & FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT:

Draw a picture of the challah loaves and candles and write with them why Shabbat is a special day of rest. What do the things Jews do on this day "say" to them about what God is like and the way He wants people to live.